(d) whether Government propose to proceed against officers of Central Vigilance Commission who have been responsible fornot including the names of those officers who fulfil the criteria for the same; and

(e) if so, by when action is proposed to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (e) The names of officers against whom the Commission advised prosecution are included in the List "A" and the names of those officers against whom the Commission advised imposition of major penalty at 2nd stage arc included in List "B". As informed by the Commission, inclusion of names of such officers as mentioned above in the List A and List B is an ongoing process depending upon the information received from various Departments/ Organisations. Every effort is made by the Commission to place the names on the website speedily. Since the numbers of cases handled in the Commission are many and the procedure for placing the names on website takes time, the updating of records is done periodically and it is possible that some names are not placed in the website. Since there are valid reasons for delay in placing the names on the website, no action is proposed to be taken against officers of the Commission.

Average number of IAS selected in a year

4238. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the average number of Indian Administrative Services candidates who are selected every year,

(b) the average number of retiring IAS officers during the last few years in the country; and

(c) tiie number of such retired officers reappointed in the administrative services during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The number of candidates selected for Indian Administrative Services on the

basis of Combined Civil Services Examinations during last few years is given below:—

1996	–	80
1997	–	76
1998	–	55
1999	–	55
2000	–	56

(b) The number of IAS officers who retired during the period from 1996 to 2000 is given below:—

19%	—	233
1997	—	222
1998	—	85
1999	—	25
2000	—	148

(c) During the last two years, no retired IAS ofTicer lias been re-appointed in the administrative services. However, one IAS officer had been appointed on contract basis in the rank and pay of Secretary to the Government of India w.e.f. 1 -2-2001 after his retirement from Government Service.

Introducing the Freedom of Information Bill

4239. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGHAL ALAN':
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have by now finalized and approved long-awaited Freedom of Information Bill;

(b) if so, the objectives thereof particularly with regard to covering inconsistencies and contradictions in the existing Official Secrets Acts;

(c) whether the proposed Bill is likely to bring under its purview anti-insurgency operations and intelligence activities of CRPF. BSF and ITBP which have been at the centre of criticism in national and international press in recent years;

(d) if so, the details mereof; and

(e) by when the Bill is likely to be introduced in Parliament?